

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1, 16, 24, 35, and 37 have been amended. New claim 39 has been added. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A visitor information gathering apparatus,
2 comprising:
3 a display;
4 one or more input devices;
5 a storage;
6 a processor; and
7 one or more sensors,
8 wherein said processor is configured to gather information provided by a visitor
9 using at least one input device from said one or more input devices responsive to prompts
10 provided by said processor through said display; wherein said processor is configured to
11 substantially contemporaneously gather information about said visitor using at least one sensor
12 from said one or more sensors; wherein said processor is configured to determine additional
13 information about said visitor based upon said information about said visitor gathered from said
14 at least one input device and said at least one sensor, wherein the additional information
15 comprises information distinct from the information about said visitor gathered from said at least
16 one input device and said at least one sensor that is not provided by the visitor using the one or
17 more input devices and is not gathered by the one or more sensors; wherein said processor is
18 configured to communicate a portion of the information about said visitor gathered from said at
19 least one input device and said at least one sensor and a portion of said additional information to
20 a user; and wherein said processor is configured to store said information about said visitor
21 gathered from said at least one input device and said at least one sensor into said storage.

2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said information about said visitor is gathered using said at least one sensor without said visitor being aware of said gathering.

3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an audio output device configured to output audio information to said visitor, said audio information determined based upon said information about said visitor gathered from said at least one input device and said at least one sensor .

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said information gathered about said visitor comprises at least one of information about a name of said visitor, an organization represented by said visitor, a purpose of a visit, a date of a visit, a time of a visit, a person to be visited, and an identity of a group of visitors visiting together.

5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said display is configured to display to said visitor at least one of a greeting, a slide show of product images, advertising, stock values, daily cartoons, and news.

6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a scanner that is configured to scan at least one of a first side and a second side of a business card having printing on at least one of said first side and said second side; and wherein, responsive to detecting text on said at least one of said first side and said second side, said processor processes said text in accordance with a language of said text.

7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a microphone, wherein said microphone provides input of speech of said visitor.

8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a video camera configured to capture an image of said visitor.

1 9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a
2 speaker, wherein said information gathered about said visitor comprises information indicating a
3 person to be visited and wherein said speaker is configured to output directions to reach said
4 person to be visited.

1 10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a
2 visitor wand configured to record experiences of said visitor.

1 11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the one or more
2 sensors include a biometric sensor configured to gather biometric information about said visitor.

1 12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a
2 handwriting tablet configured to provide a sample of handwriting of said visitor.

1 13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said one or more
2 sensors include a security sensor configured to provide information about potential threats.

1 14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a
2 telephone interface configured to communicate a telephone message to a person to be visited that
3 said visitor has arrived.

1 15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said processor is
2 configured to determine said additional information about said visitor using a web interface.

1 16. (Currently Amended) A method for collecting information about visitors,
2 said method comprising:

3 gathering information about a visitor in an interactive session with an automated
4 kiosk;

5 placing said information into a format in which said information may be stored;

6 storing said information for retrieval; and

7 based upon said gathered information about said visitor, automatically obtaining
8 additional information about said visitor from one or more sources, the additional information
9 comprising information that is not provided during ~~distinct from the information about the visitor~~
10 ~~gathered in the interactive session; and~~
11 communicating at least a portion of said gathered information and at least a
12 portion of said additional information to a user.

1 17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein gathering
2 information about said visitor at said automated kiosk comprises obtaining information from said
3 visitor using a process of which said visitor is aware and obtaining information about said visitor
4 using a process of which said visitor is not aware.

1 18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising
2 determining a person to be visited by said visitor based upon said information gathered about
3 said user and wherein communicating said portion of said gathered information and said portion
4 of said additional information to said user comprises communicating said portions to said person
5 to be visited.

1 19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein obtaining said
2 additional information comprises at least one of performing a search on the Internet, searching a
3 publicly available database, searching a database of visitor information obtained from said
4 automated kiosk, and searching a local document database.

1 20-23. (Canceled)

1 24. (Currently Amended) A computer programming product for collecting
2 information about visitors, said computer programming product comprising:
3 code for gathering information about a visitor in an interactive session with an
4 automated kiosk;
5 code for placing said information into a format in which said information may be
6 stored;

7 code for storing said information for retrieval;
8 code for obtaining, based upon said gathered information about said visitor,
9 additional information about said visitor from one or more sources, the additional information
10 comprising information that is not provided during ~~distinct from the information about the visitor~~
11 ~~gathered in the interactive session;~~
12 code for providing said additional information about said visitor and said
13 information about said visitor gathered at said kiosk to a person interested in said information;
14 and
15 a computer readable storage medium for holding the codes.

1 25-31. (Canceled)

1 32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said user is a
2 person that said visitor intends to visit.

1 33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said additional
2 information comprises information about said visitor's previous visit.

1 34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said additional
2 information comprises information about said visitor is determined from a database accessible to
3 said processor and storing information about said visitor.

1 35. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for collecting information about
2 visitors, the apparatus comprising:
3 one or more input devices;
4 one or more sensors configured to capture information about a visitor;
5 a data processing system; and
6 a communication interface;
7 wherein the data processing system is configured to receive information provided
8 by the visitor using the one or more input devices and information about the visitor captured by
9 the one or more sensors;

10 wherein the data processing system is configured to determine additional
11 information about the visitor based upon the information provided by the visitor using the one or
12 more input devices and the information about the visitor captured by the one or more sensors, the
13 additional information comprising distinct from the information that is not provided by the
14 visitor using the one or more input devices and ~~the information about the visitor~~ information that
15 is not captured by the one or more sensors;

16 wherein the communication interface is configured to communicate the additional
17 information to a person to be visited by the visitor.

1 36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the data
2 processing system is configured to generate a web page for the visitor, the web page storing
3 information indicative of one or more persons visited by the visitor.

1 37. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[35]]~~ 36 wherein the web
2 page is accessible by the visitor.

1 38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35 further comprising an
2 output device configured to output information to the visitor, the information output by the
3 output device being customized for the visitor based upon the information provided by the visitor
4 using the one or more input devices, the information about the visitor captured by the one or
5 more sensors, and the additional information.

1 39. (New) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the information provided by the
2 visitor using the at least one input device and the information gathered by the at least one sensor
3 is used to identify the visitor at an office appliance.